

of agents like Nicholas Ivie and his brother, Joel. The Ivie family has endured a terrible tragedy and made an extraordinary sacrifice on behalf of all Americans and we are forever thankful.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life and legacy of Border Patrol Agent Nicholas J. Ivie, as well as each man and woman in our Border Patrol, and all of those in harm's way supporting their efforts, who toil daily to secure our borders and maintain our safety. I also ask that we recognize the sacrifice and burdens these families endure in support of this great country. We owe them all our eternal gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
GARB

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Garb for his 20 years of service as the CEO and board member of StarVista, an outstanding non-profit organization in San Mateo County that transforms the lives of children, youths, adults and families. Michael embraces StarVista's philosophy that building strong and healthy communities begins with helping each individual to develop his or her own path to personal growth. The organization serves over 34,000 residents of San Mateo County every year, providing counseling, prevention, early intervention and education resources.

Michael was named Chief Executive Officer of StarVista in May 2008. He served on the board of directors for two decades, long before Youth and Family Assistance and Family and Community Enrichment Services merged in 2003 to become StarVista—a process he oversaw. The merger revitalized the organization, broadened its services, increased awareness of its programs, strengthened its branding, and increased both collaboration with other agencies and revenue. In short, more people now benefit from better services.

Under Michael's leadership the Bridge to Success Initiative was launched to expand programs for early childhood, family and youth. StarVista and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation brought together 20 partners, including school districts, preschools, non-profits, agencies, and the San Mateo County Office of Education, to help children in eight school districts.

The Youth Development Initiative, launched in 2011, has attracted diverse groups of youth and adults who learn to make their voices heard and become strong and contributing members of the community.

Jewish Family and Children's Services incorporated their Early Childhood Mental Health Programs into StarVista's array of services in 2012 to improve childcare and healthy childhood development.

StarVista's Women's Enrichment Center program was the first outside program to be selected to work with the County AOD and Mental Health departments to implement electronic medical records software that will eventually be used throughout the county.

Michael was born in Newark, New Jersey. He earned his BA in accounting from Bloomfield College.

He was on the school board of the Belmont-Redwood Shores School for eight years, two of them as president, on the 2-1-1 Steering Committee, the Community Health Reform Advocacy Committee, the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council, and the Belle Haven Community School Executive Team.

In his well deserved retirement, Michael is looking forward to spending more time with wife of 44 years, Judy, their daughter Mindy Shelton and son Dave Garb and their four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Michael Garb who has turned StarVista into a smooth-running and highly respected agency that touches young and old lives every day.

San Mateo County is a better place for all of us because of Michael's vision, work and commitment to our community.

IN HONOR OF THE 80TH BIRTHDAY
OF MARY ANNA MEYER

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary Anna Meyer, of Peoria, Illinois on her 80th birthday, which she celebrated on October 4, 2012. Throughout her life, Mary Anna has exemplified the American values of civic duty, service above self, and love of family, which includes her 7 children, 30 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Mary Anna has been an outstanding Peoria citizen for the past 40 years, deeply involved in civic, church, and social causes far too numerous to list. She has been a leader in the Republican Party, serving as a delegate in the 1980 National Convention, as a precinct committee person for over two decades, and as a member of the Peoria County Republican Women. Because of her years of experience and valued insights, she has served as a mentor and guide to many in political office, promoting legislation to build strong families and protect the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Her service has crossed party and political lines, reaching the impoverished in Peoria by volunteering with the Missionaries of Charity and Sacred Heart Church programs. On a broader level, she has served many roles for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria—as a member and officer of the Respect Life Board and Council of Catholic Women, as a Director of Religious Education for over 30 years, and as a leader in the Catholic Women's Apostolate.

But her impact cannot be measured merely in terms of public leadership positions. Mary Anna has served as a role model and mentor to countless area citizens, working tirelessly to provide help for unwed mothers, counsel for troubled marriages, advice to confused youth, and recommendations to the Peoria City Council on many social issues. She takes Pride in Peoria to heart, and in turn, Peoria has much to be proud of in celebrating the achievements of her generous and selfless life. It is my honor to recognize her today, and to thank her for her decades of service to Central Illinois.

IN HONOR OF GENE DOVIDIO

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gene Dovidio, a U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II and last Bucks County survivor of the attacks on Pearl Harbor. Mr. Dovidio passed away at the age of 87 on September 22, 2012.

He represented the best of Bucks County. A family man, He was the widower of Shirley Thompson Dovidio, father of Sandy Norris, David, Philip, Steven and the late Gerald and Sharon. He was the brother of Margaret De Luca, grandfather of seven, great-grandfather of nine; and also survived by many nieces and nephews. Mr. Dovidio was an Eagle Scout and served honorably as a Boy Scout leader in the community for many years.

Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Gene Dovidio, we mourn not just the man, who served his county honorably, but we also mourn the passing of an era. His death reminds of those who have served and those who continue to serve their country in the armed forces and we honor their sacrifices.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER
GENERAL JENNIFER WALTER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jennifer Walter for attaining the rank of Brigadier General as she becomes the next Chief of Staff of the Iowa Air National Guard. This is a truly momentous occasion for the State of Iowa as Jennifer is the first female General Officer in the history of the Iowa Air National Guard.

Jennifer Walter began her historic career as a technician in 1975 as a temporary Clerk in Operations. Airman Walter would serve the next 11 years of her career as an enlisted person in various roles before receiving her commission for the Academy of Military Science as a Second Lieutenant in 1986. Three short years later, Lieutenant Walter had received a Bachelor of Science degree from Upper Iowa University, and would go on to successfully complete Squadron Officer School in 1994, Air Command and Staff College in 2000, and Air War College in 2004. Throughout her career, she has won numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, NATO Medal, and the State of Iowa Commendation Medal, just to name a few.

Since January of last year, Colonel Walter had held the position of Vice Wing Commander of the 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines where she was uniquely responsible for exercising command responsibilities and providing a combat ready force for mobilization. This position included ensuring mission ready personnel, equipment, and F-16C aircraft for worldwide tasking by commanding over 970 personnel and 21 aircraft. On Sunday, the Iowa Air National Guard will formally bestow Brigadier General Walter with her new

role as she assumes the prestigious role as Chief of Staff of the Iowa Air National Guard where she will directly assist Iowa's Adjutant General.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a long-time, outspoken supporter of Iowa's 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines because of the remarkable men and women who are the best in the Nation at what they do. Jennifer Walter's career is a testament to the 132nd Fighter Wing and what Iowans are capable of through hard work and unwavering commitment to a cause greater than themselves. I applaud Brigadier General Walter on her most recent promotion in her remarkably storied career. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jennifer, and all of the Iowa Air National Guard, on the continued excellence they provide to Des Moines, the State of Iowa, and our Nation as a whole.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND
DR. LARRY WAYNE ELLIS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend Dr. Larry Wayne Ellis for his 25 years of service and inspiration as senior pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in San Mateo.

Dr. Ellis understands the power of the written and spoken word. He has authored six books, including *Trust*, *The Congregation Driven Ministry* and *The Uncommon Book of Prayers*. He was also selected to contribute to the *Oxford Sermons Volume II*. His soothing voice fills his parish and the airwaves of KFX-AM and KMEL-FM radio on a regular basis. His radio ministry "Teach the Word" is broadcast daily on KFX and the "Dr. Larry Show" is broadcast monthly on KMEL.

Dr. Ellis started as the pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in September 1987 and has grown and revitalized his congregation ever since. Originally from Clarksville, Tennessee, he earned his bachelor's degree from Austin Peay State University in Tennessee. He moved to California and received his Master of Divinity degree from Golden Gate Theological Seminary and his Masters Degree in Counseling from the College of Notre Dame. In 1995, he topped off his education with a Doctorate of Ministry from the Northern Baptists Theological Seminary in Illinois.

Dr. Ellis continues his lifelong commitment to religious education. He currently serves as vice president and professor at Southern Marin Bible Institute and an adjunct professor at Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley. In 1999, he was selected as president of Bay Area Baptist Congress Christian Education and in 2002 served as vice president of the California State Congress of Christian Education. He was president of California State Baptist Congress of Christian Education from 2005 until 2010. He is on the board of directors of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education.

Members of Dr. Ellis' congregation describe him as a teacher and encourager who lives by example—or as he puts it, "I am my message. I have to model my ministry." A few years ago, a veteran joined the church after some 10 years in the military. She had drifted into a

life of drugs and hopelessness. Dr. Ellis encouraged and mentored her to turn her life around. She cleaned up, moved into transitional housing the church had purchased and went to school to earn her BA and Masters degrees. Today she is a double homeowner and mentors children and members of the Pilgrim Baptist congregation.

In addition to preaching, teaching and encouraging, Dr. Ellis is always looking for ways to stay engaged with our community outside the church. He founded C.H.O.I.C.E.S., a drug information and referral nonprofit agency and became president and CEO of the Pilgrim Organization, Inc., a youth through senior nonprofit organization.

Our community has recognized his invaluable contributions. He received the Hero of Health Award from the African American Community Advisory Board, the Pastoral Excellence Award from Samford University, and he was inducted into the San Mateo Library Wall of Fame.

Dr. Ellis is married to Vanderler Hines-Ellis and is the proud father of Tawana, Justin and Austin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Reverend Dr. Larry W. Ellis who has touched thousands of lives and lifted the spirits of the residents of San Mateo, California and throughout the world.

HONORING ELIZABETH "LIBBY"
CURRAN, PEOPLE MAGAZINE'S
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elizabeth "Libby" Curran, who was recently named Teacher of the Year by People Magazine, one of only five educators across the country to receive this award for her efforts to change the lives of her students.

Libby is a special education teacher at Richards Elementary School in Newport, New Hampshire. She also serves as a district trainer for Newport School District's Alternative Assessment Program, mentoring her colleagues and serving as a role model for new educators.

Libby's dedication to her students goes beyond the classroom and normal school hours. She created a successful afterschool reading buddies program for students to improve their reading skills by reading to each other, and Libby has encouraged 500 children and their families become regular library users. Libby even writes and illustrates small hand-made books that she distributes to her students. As Libby says in the magazine, "Reading is the key to success, not just in school, but also in life."

Our children's success in the classroom starts with great teachers, and Libby is a terrific example of the caliber of teachers we are proud to have in the Granite State. It is an honor to represent Libby in the United States Congress, and I wish her all the best as she continues to touch the lives of so many students in New Hampshire and beyond.

IN HONOR OF HARRY CROHE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Crohe, a member of the Bucks County Rescue Squad. Mr. Crohe joined the Rescue Squad in 1963 as a volunteer and is presently an Emergency Medical Technician. He has held the following positions, Director of First Aid, Chief, and President of the Board of Directors. He was Chairman of the employee relations, fundraising, ambulance and building committees.

During his tenure with the Bucks County Rescue Squad, Mr. Crohe also served as a volunteer fireman and on the Bristol Borough Town Council. Presently, he serves on the Bristol Borough Planning Commission. His wife Cathy also volunteers with the Rescue Squad.

Mr. Speaker, Harry Crohe exemplifies all of the best qualities in a Bucks County resident. He has worked tirelessly for 50 years to help members of his community and improve the local quality of life. His efforts should be commended. Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

HAZLETON LIONS CLUB'S MELVIN
JONES FELLOWSHIP AWARD RE-
CIPIENTS

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank Molinaro IV, Mr. James Warnagiris, Dr. Joseph Bafile, Mr. Richard Hudak, and Mr. Richard Piskel, recipients of the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. This award is presented by the Hazleton Lions Club and given for a person's outstanding service to the club and the community. It is the highest award given in Lionism.

Since 1917, Lions Clubs have offered people the opportunity to give something back to their communities. On October 23, 1923, the Hazleton Lions Club was formed, and this year, the club will celebrate its 89th anniversary. Since its founding, the Hazleton Lions Club has been extremely active within the community, completing numerous projects and making donations in support of many other organizations.

Mr. Molinaro, Mr. Warnagiris, Dr. Bafile, and Mr. Piskel have all served as president of the Hazleton Lions Club. Mr. Hudak currently serves as first vice president and will begin a term as president in July 2013. All five men are being honored for raising \$5,000 over a five-year period for the Lions Clubs International Sight First II Project. Sight First is a Lions initiative to restore sight and prevent blindness around the world. Each of these men also took part in the construction of the Hazleton Lions Pavilion in the Hazle Township Community Park. They have each served our community loyally.

Mr. Speaker, today Mr. Frank Molinaro IV, Mr. James Warnagiris, Dr. Joseph Bafile, Mr. Richard Hudak, and Mr. Richard Piskel stand as civic leaders in Northeastern Pennsylvania.